GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3153
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2001
UNAUTHORISED MINING
RAMESH CHENNITHALA

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry issued any guidelines to States to protect the rivers from unauthorised mining in Kerala;

(b) whether the Government are aware that unauthorised mining from rivers is still going on in Kerala; and

(c) if so, the details of action taken by the Government in the matter?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (c): Instances of illegal/unauthorised mining in different States are brought to the notice of the Central Government from time to time. Responsibility for checking illegal mining , if any, rests with the State Governments. Several provisions exist in the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act,1957 (MMDR Act) to curb illicit mining. Moreover, to further strengthen the provisions in this regard, under recently introduced Section 23C of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act,1957, State Governments have been empowered to make rules for preventing illegal mining, transportation and storage of minerals.